

# The way into our inheritance

August 9, 2020

Last week our message was on following the cloud.  
Israel had just come out of Egypt, and were in the wilderness.  
And were headed towards the land of promise.  
They were guided by the cloud, representing the Holy Spirit.  
In other words, they were being led by the Holy Spirit.  
There were a number of tests they had to pass in the wilderness.

Their inheritance was the land of promise, notably Mount Zion.  
Mount Zion represents the full presence of Lord, all its blessings.  
But there were many experiences they had to pass through first.

Unfortunately, most of the Israelites failed all their tests.  
Most of them never inherited the promises.  
Paul tells us, all these things are written for our learning, warning.

“Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.” 1 Corinthians 10:11, KJV.

Israel's journey from Egypt, through the wilderness to the promised land, and he eventually to Mount Zion, is actually our road map.  
In Hebrews chapter 3 and 4, Paul warns us over and over -  
Do not harden your heart, as Israel did in the wilderness:  
This was wrong response to injury! A major problem of human heart  
Let's look at several of these scriptures:  
Paul, in Hebrews chapter 3 and 4, is quoting from Psalms 95:8;

**Psalms 95:8; “Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:” Paul quotes this three times. Hebrews 3:8 “Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:”**

**Hebrews 3:15 “While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.”**

**Hebrews 4:7. “Again, he limits a certain day, saying through David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”**

**There were 10 tests along the way, after they came out of Egypt. These ten tests were in the first two years after coming out of Egypt. They failed every one of them. God said after failing the tenth test - You've disqualified yourself from entering the promised land.**

**Actually there was no excuse for them failing these tests. After seeing all the miracles God did to the Egyptians to save them. After seeing the Red Sea open, destroying the whole Egyptian army. Then were angry with God because... no water for a short season.**

**All these things written for our learning, not to make same mistakes. Over and over again we are warned, do not harden your heart.... like Israel did in the wilderness, where they provoked the Lord.**

**A hard heart has no faith. Faith only works in a soft heart. Israel constantly hardened their hearts along their journey. And when tests came, they had no faith to believe. Instead they complained, murmured, criticized God and their leaders.**

**Remember, the Cloud (Holy Spirit) was leading them to each situation. Each test was only preparing them for their inheritance, in the land of promise. We also are on a journey. There are tests that we must pass. God has a wonderful inheritance, for all of us, if we are faithful. We must not harden our hearts, receive grace in time of need. He.4:16 Israel's journey from Egypt to Zion, is a Christian's roadmap. It is a roadmap to our spiritual inheritance, at spiritual Mt. Zion. Let's briefly summarize the journey of Israel. Our roadmap:**

**The Israelites were in bondage in Egypt. Slaves to Pharaoh. Egypt represents the world, the house of bondage. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, represents Satan. He, and Egypt, were holding God's people in bondage.**

**What saved the Israelites from Egypt? The blood of the lamb. The Israelites applied the blood of a lamb to house, and were saved. The Lord said, when I see the blood and I will pass over you. The Egyptians ignored the message of the blood... firstborn died. Immediately - the Israelites departed from Egypt. When we become a Christian, we must quickly get out of the world. Very soon came to the Red Sea. Red Sea speaks water baptism.**

**They were saved by the blood of the lamb, then quickly baptized. About 50 days after coming out of Egypt, they came to Mount Sinai. This represents Pentecost. Signs of Pentecost were here at Mt. Sinai. They saw the fire of God, heard His voice, many signs and wonders.**

**Just as Peter said: repent, be baptized, receive the Spirit Acts 2:38  
Quote Acts 2:38.**

**They remained at Mount Sinai for 11 months.  
From Exodus 19:1. To Numbers 10:11. - a total of 58 chapters.  
They left Egypt in April, the first month,  
Came to Sinai the third month, which was June.  
They left Mount Sinai in the second month of the second-year.  
Which was the month of May, a total of 11 months, 58 chapters.**

**Finally, they left Mount Sinai. In Numbers 11:1, they soon complained.  
And God was very displeased. In Numbers 11:5-6, they complained:  
“We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.” Numbers 11:5, 6, KJV.**

**Oh, we remember the good times we had when were back in Egypt.  
When we are back in the world. This was an insult to God.  
In their hearts they had turned back to Egypt.  
Some Christians are like this. And want to return to the world.**

**In Numbers 11:10 - the anger of the Lord was greatly kindled,  
And Moses also was very displeased.  
In the 11:15, Moses was so discouraged, he wanted to die.  
Leading 2 million complainers, he was exasperated.**

**But the major turning point in this wilderness journey, is chapter 14.  
They had come to Kadesh Barnea, on the edge of the promised land.  
12 men had been sent to spy out the land.  
10 of them give an evil report. “There are big giants in the land.”  
The problem is bigger than God. But two of them gave a good report.  
Caleb and Joshua said, God is bigger than the problem.  
The enemies are like grasshoppers, they are nothing.**

**The confession of our mouth determines whether or not we receive our inheritance. Our mouth reveals our heart.**

**The 10 negative spies, discouraged the whole congregation. Num.14:3  
“Wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?” Numbers 14:3, KJV.**

**Numbers 14:8-9 Caleb and Joshua declared:**

**“If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.” But in Numbers 14:22-23 - God said:**

**After failing 10 major tests, God said; you're not going in.**

## **Everyone got what they confessed**

**Numbers 14:28. “Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:”**

**Most of the congregation said, God hates us,  
He brought us out here just to die in the wilderness.**

**God said, alright, if that's what you say about me, you will die here.**

**Caleb/Joshua said, the Lord is well able to bring us into this good land**

**God said, alright, you will go into the land.**

**Everyone got what they confessed. This is so important.**

**We must keep our heart soft. Do not harden your heart.**

**When they were back at Mount Sinai, Moses was 40 days there.**

**They said where is Moses? And they erected an idol, worshiped it.**

**This is our God that brought us out of the land of Egypt.**

**God was very angry.**

**So Numbers 14:22-23 was the turning point in Israel's journey.  
After two years of constant criticism and complaining,  
God changed his mind, and said you are not going into the land.  
As you've spoken in my ears so will I do to.  
You say I am no good I am hard, and hateful.  
I've brought you into this wilderness just die.  
Alright you will die in this wilderness, everyone got what they said.  
They wandered another 38 years, till the whole generation died off.  
Now, 40 years later, after coming out of Egypt. Moses is about to die.  
And he writes the book of Deuteronomy.  
Deuteronomy is giving final instructions to the new generation.  
How they should act when they get into the land of inheritance.  
At the end of Deuteronomy, Moses dies.**

**In the book of Joshua, Joshua led them all across Jordan.  
Into the land of promise. At Jordan, they are all circumcised.  
Circumcision of the heart is important, to receive all God's promises.  
This is the cutting away of evil from our hearts, that we're born with.  
We all need our Jordan experience, a circumcised heart.  
To have this experience, there are many dedications, tests to pass.**

**After crossing Jordan, they were to drive all the enemies in the land.  
But here is the problem of the human heart... compromise.  
Most of the tribes did not drive out all the enemies, only some of them.**

**In Joshua chapter 12, were 31 kings they needed to drive out. These  
31 kings represent ruling lords of our heart that need to be driven out.  
Unfortunately, many Christians have many other things in their hearts.  
And therefore, do not totally get their inheritance.**

**Joshua 18:2-3 “And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance. And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?”**

**Here’s the problem, slackness, Halfheartedness! Not totally committed They have come into the land of promise, but allowing other enemies. Dwelling with other iniquities in their hearts.**

**The greatest inheritance of all had not yet been attained.**

**Mount Zion, the place of God's habitation, Full blessing of God.**

**This was not conquered until the time of David, 400 years later.**

**In the book of Judges:**

**1:21 - and the children of Benjamin, did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem.**

**1:27 neither did Manasseh drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shean.**

**1:29 neither did Ephraim Drive out the Canaanites.**

**And on and on...Compromise, half heartedness. Not totally dedicated. They settled for coexistence with their enemies.**

## **The ultimate destination**

**But 400 years later, King David finally conquered Mount Zion.**

**“Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.” 2 Samuel 5:7, KJV.**

**In Exodus 15:17, after they just crossed the Red Sea, the Lord spoke to them, what the ultimate destination was in the land of promise.**

**It was to come to Mount Zion. Let's read Exodus 15:17:**

**“Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place, O LORD, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.”**

**After David conquered Mount Zion, this became the localized presence of the Lord. God dwell here.**

**King David wrote many songs about Zion.**

**In Psalm 15 & 24, he gives qualifications for being on Zion. Being in God's presence. Remember this is ultimate destination of our journey.**

## **Qualifications for being on Mount Zion**

**Psalms 24:3-5, KJV. “Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.”**

**LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.” Psalms 15:1-5, KJV.**

**Let's go on to our full inheritance - the Lord himself is our inheritance. God bless you abundantly!**



## **In summary:**

**Saved by the blood, baptized in water, filled with the Holy Spirit.**

**Passing our tests in the wilderness.**

**Not heartening our hearts, but relying on Grace**

**Coming to our Jordan, experiencing circumcision of heart.**

**Driving out the enemies of our heart.**

**No coexistence with the evil in our hearts, our old nature**

**Finally coming to Mount Zion, the presence of God, Full blessing.**